

**REMARKS**

Claim 1-32 are currently pending in this case. The Examiner has requested restricting prosecution to one of the following three groups of claims:

Group I, claims 1-22, drawn to a medical implant;

Group II, claims 23-29, drawn to a method of medically treating a target site; and

Group III, claims 30-32, drawn to a method of covering a medical implant.

The undersigned traverses the request as the additional time necessary to search Groups II and III does not present a substantial burden as set out in MPEP section 808.02.

Nevertheless, in accord with the Rules, the undersigned provisionally elects Group I, claims 1-22, for further examination.


**Conclusion**

The undersigned may be reached at the below mailing address and directly at 202-220-4311.

The Office is authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 to deposit account no. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 3, 2007

  
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Fred Grasso  
Reg. No. 43,644

KENYON & KENYON LLP  
1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
Tel: (202) 220-4200  
Fax: (202) 220-4201  
639964v1 (FTG/bep)